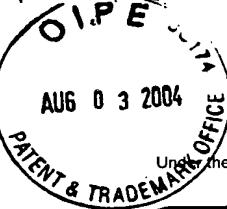


AUG 8 3 2004



PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

**Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant  
application filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).**

<i>Application Number</i>	09/684,883
<i>Filing Date</i>	October 6, 2000
<i>Examiner Name</i>	Albert Mark Navarro
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Bernard R. Brodeur
<i>Group Art Unit</i>	1645
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	PHARMA-0147-C01

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**
  - a.  Previously submitted
    - i.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
    - ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Enclosed
    - i.  Amendment/Reply
    - ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
    - iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
    - iv.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Miscellaneous**
  - a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
  - b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
  - a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_
    - i.  RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
    - ii.  Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
    - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - b.  Check in the amount of \$ 1720.00 enclosed
  - c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print /Type)	Richard M. Lebovitz	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	37,067
Signature			
Date	August 3, 2004		

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print /Type)			
Signature		Date	

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.



DAC/RCD  
JFW A/A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Bernard R. Brodeur : Examiner: Albert Mark Navarro

Serial No.: 09/684,883 : Group Art Unit: 1645

Filed: October 6, 2000

For: **PROTEINASE K RESISTANT SURFACE PROTEIN OF NEISSERIA MENINGITIS**

**R E P L Y**

**Mail Stop: 313(c)**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed September 15, 2003, please amend the above-identified application and consider the amendments and remarks which follow.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

Remarks begin at page 6 of this paper.